

REMARKS

Please reconsider the present application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claim 2 is allowed, and for indicating that claims 7 and 8 contain allowable subject matter.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1, 2, and 7-12 were pending in this application. By way of this reply, claims 7, 9, and 12 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, and 8, 10, and 11 are now pending in this application. Claims 1 and 2 are independent. The remaining claims depend from claim 1.

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1 and 8 have been amended by way of this reply. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of canceled claim 7, which the Examiner indicated contains allowable subject matter. Claim 8 has been amended to depend from amended claim 1. No new matter has been added by way of the amendments.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claim 2 is allowed, and that claims 7 and 8 contain patentable subject matter. The limitations of claim 7 have been incorporated into independent claim 1, and claim 8 has been amended to depend from independent claim 1. Accordingly, claims 1 and 8 now also stand allowable.

Objections to the Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings for not showing the “operation body” of claim 12. Claim 12 has been canceled. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1 and 9-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,959,209 (“Takeuchi”) in view of Wiley Encyclopedia of Electrical and Electronics Engineering: Strain Sensors (“Wiley”). Claims 9 and 12 have been canceled by way of this reply. Accordingly, this rejection is now moot with respect to claims 9 and 12. Claim 1 has been amended by way of this reply. To the extent that the rejection may still apply to the amended claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of allowable claim 7. Thus, claim 1 now stands allowable. Claims 10 and 11 depend from claim 1. Thus, claims 10 and 11 are allowable, for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

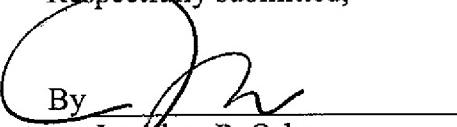
Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 07700/072001).

Dated: July 8, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By


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